

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3 have been rejected. Claims 4-10 have been objected to.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,427,467 to Bell.

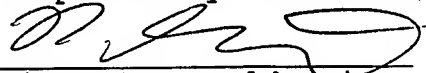
Claims 2 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of United States Patent No. 6,050,099 to Lopa et al.

Claims 4-10 have been objected to. The Examiner has indicated, however, that claims 4-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of previous claims 2, 3, and 4. Claim 5 has been amended so that it now depends from claim 1. Claims 2, 3, and 4 have been cancelled.

Accordingly, please remove the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) of claim 1; 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claims 2-3, and the objections to claims 4-10. Please enter the allowance of claims 1, and 5-10.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully solicited. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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